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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3002
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0715
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0408
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 0370
RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE 0029
RUEHNN/AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA IMMEDIATE 0122
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 3452

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 TRIPOLI 000036

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DEPT FOR NEA/MAG AND L (JSCHWARTZ)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 1/22/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [LY](#)

SUBJECT: GOL SUGGESTS U.S.-LIBYAN BILATERAL TIES "GREATLY
COMPLICATED" BY UTA CASE DAMAGES AWARD TRIPOLI 00000036 001.2 OF 003 CLASSIFIED BY: Chris Stevens, DCM, Embassy Tripoli, Department of State. F

1.(S) Summary: The recent decision by a U.S. judge to award roughly \$6 billion in damages to families of seven Americans killed in Libya's 1989
THREE TIMES AS BIG AS PAN AM 103

2.(U) According to press reports, which also appeared in Arabic language media, U.S. District Court Judge Henry Kennedy January 15 awarded apprx
JUDGMENT A "CONSIDERABLE SHOCK" FOR THE GOL ...

3.(C) Former French Ambassador to Tripoli, Jean-Jacques Beausson, a consultant for the UTA 772 claimants' counsel, U.S. law firm Crowell & Mori
... WHICH IS SCRAMBLING TO FORMULATE A RESPONSE

4.(C) According to Beausson, the GOL believed the proposed out-of-court settlement amount would have prompted families of French victims, who s
POSSIBLE SCENARIOS

5.(C) Referencing conversations with counsel for the U.S. claimants, Beausson speculated that the unanticipated size of the judgment might cons
MFA: AWARD WILL "GREATLY COMPLICATE" BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

6.(S) Ahmed Fituri, MFA Secretary for the Americas, flatly told the CDA and A/DCM January 17 that the UTA 772 decision would "greatly complicat

7.(C) Fituri offered his "personal opinion" that the planned visit of musician Robert McNamara, who received a PAS grant to give guitar concert

8.(C) In a follow-on January 21 meeting with CDA, Fituri said that the GOL response would comprise a letter from FM Shalgham to the Secretary re
COMMENT

9. (S) The Shalgham letter to Secretary Rice is vague as to what the GOL wants and intends. It does not specifically mention an appeal nor does

10.(S) After a four-month period of relatively good bilateral cooperation bracketed by NEA A/S Welch's August 2007 visit and FM Shalgham's Janu